SZS&Z Ref. No. : IO031004PUS Atty. Dkt. No. INFN/SZ0018

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Final Office Action dated June 22, 2005, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on September 22, 2005. Applicants submit this response to place the application in condition for allowance or in better form for appeal. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

Claims 1, 5-7, 10-13, 15-22 and 25-28 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 7, 13, 26 and 28 have been amended. Claims 21, 22, 25 and 27 have been cancelled. Applicants submit that the amendments do not introduce new matter and do not raise new issues. Claims 1, 5-7, 10-13, 15-20, 26 and 28 remain pending following entry of this response.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1, 5, 6, 7, 10-12, 13 and 15-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1, 7 and 13 have been amended to more clearly recite "an external reference voltage" and thus, claims 1, 7 and 13, and those depending therefrom (including claims 5, 6, 10-12, and 15-20) are believed to be in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 5, 6, 7, 10-12, 13 and 15-20 are allowed. Claims 26 and 28 are objected to. Claims 26 and 28 have been re-written in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim Rejections

Claims 21 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Allgood et al. (US 4.384,277, hereinafter Allgood).

Claims 25 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Allgood.

In view of the allowable subject matter, claims 21, 22, 25 and 27 have been canceled to move prosecution forward and to out all claims in condition for allowance.

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Applicants reserve the right to traverse these rejections in subsequent continuation applications.

Conclusion

The secondary references made of record are noted. However, it is believed that the secondary references are no more pertinent to the Applicants' disclosure than the primary references cited in the office action. Therefore, Applicants believe that a detailed discussion of the secondary references is not necessary for a full and complete response to this office action.

Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

If the Examiner believes any issues remain that prevent this application from going to issue, the Examiner is strongly encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney to discuss strategies for moving prosecution forward toward allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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